

Small Business & DVBE Services Branch

"Bringing Business & Government Together"

This is the first edition of a monthly publication detailing the services provided by the Department of General Services for the Small Business and Disabled Veteran Business communities during the previous month.

APRIL 2004

Outreach

98% of all businesses in California are small businesses

50% of all workers in California are employed by small businesses

California is home to more than **1 Million** small businesses

- **Hosted the first "Resource Exchange"** for certified small and DVBE construction firms. The three hour event included participation and presentations by DGS' certification reciprocity partners, including Sacramento Municipal Utility District, the City of Sacramento, Sacramento Housing & Redevelopment Agency, as well as DGS' Real Estate Services Division and CalTrans. More than 100 business participants from the construction trades attended and spoke with agency representatives and collected information about how to do business with the State and its partners—March 16
- **Exhibition for small businesses** at the Jet Propulsion Laboratories/NASA conference—March 2
- **Exhibition for small businesses** at the annual Fairfield Suisun Chamber of Commerce event—March 8
- **Meeting** with the San Diego Airport Authority regarding acceptance of the State's SB Certification—March 16
- **Speaker and exhibitor** at the Quarterly LA County Business Connections, and at the Department of Transportation SBA California Marketplace event in Oakland—March 17
- **Presentation** to the DVBE Council—March 20
- **Presentation** to two Southern and one Northern California Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC)—March 20

Certification

- **Reached the 15,000 certified firms milestone!** In the past few years, record numbers of firms have been certified in record time. Now, this phenomenal growth includes doubling the pool of certified firms from just over 7,500 in September 2001 to more than 15,000 in March, 2004! See graph at left—March 29

